



# THE TOKEN HUNTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE  
NATIONAL UTAH TOKEN SOCIETY

AUGUST 1993  
VOL. 12, NO. 8

Dedicated to Collecting, Recording and Preserving Medals and Tokens

OFFICERS			NEXT MEETING							PROGRAM	
			August							****AUGUST 26****ANNUAL PICNIC****	
PRES.	BILL BROWN	942-4365	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	OUR ANNUAL PICNIC IS BEING HELD AT	
V.P.	PHIL LAVORGNA	966-3141	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	FAIRMONT PARK. BRING YOUR OWN PLATE,	
TREA.	JOLENE HENDERSON	967-2975	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	UTENSILS, CUPS, & MEAT. BRING A	
SEC.	KAREN SECOR	731-5437	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	SIDE DISH TO SHARE. MEET At 7:15 PM.	
WAGON	ERIC JAMESON	582-6461	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	BRING YOUR "FINDS OF THE MONTHS" FOR	
MASTERS	BRUCE DUGGER	966-3661	29	30	31					THE LAST TWO MONTHS. 2361 SOUTH 600 E.	
	ERIC BERNKOPF	625-0721								NEW "ARTICLE CONTEST" STARTING!!	
EDITOR	KAREN KAY	250-1663								MAP TO PICNIC IS ENCLOSED	

\*\*\*\*\*PRIZES\*\*\*\*\*PRIZES\*\*\*\*\*PRIZES\*\*\*\*\*

PRIZE LIST WAS NOT AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF PUBLICATION. WE WILL HAVE THE SAME WONDERFUL TYPE OF PRIZES FOR OUR RAFFLE AS ALWAYS.

POT LUCK PICNIC AUG 26-FAIRMONT PARK  
BRING YOUR F.O.M.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE CONTEST  
DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 13

WE WANT EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE IN AS MANY ACTIVITIES AS POSSIBLE. THE CLUB IS NOTHING WITHOUT YOU. A SPECIAL WELCOME IS EXTENDED TO ALL NEW MEMBERS. IF YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ACTIVE LATELY, PLEASE TRY TO COME TO THE PICNIC AND RENEW FRIENDSHIPS. IT IS A LOT OF FUN!!



# FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Dear NUTS,

A good time was had by everyone on the train trip. The snow cones were very refreshing despite the cold July temperature. It was a very enjoyable and interesting trip and I would like to thank Phil Lavorgna for arranging it.

This past Saturday we had a club hunt at Winter Quarters. It is a very interesting ghost town with many foundations and other remnants of the town exposed, as well as others hidden in the underbrush. The old Wasatch Store is still an impressive sight and provided a great photo opportunity. There is an excellent picture of the store taken at the time of the mine disaster in 1900 in George Thompson's book Some Dreams Die.

The detecting was somewhat slow. I think almost everyone was able to find a few miner's tool checks. Several wheat pennies turned up and one Indian Head penny. The only token I know of that was found was from Scofield. For those of you who do not own detectors, take note it was found lying exposed on the surface with no help from a detector. (Editor's note: A least one really neat marble was found. Will the finder please bring it to show at the picnic?).

One final note on Winter Quarters: As I detected, I was concerned to find some new holes that had not been refilled. Remember to always leave an area as you found it. This will keep the hobby from getting a bad reputation, as well as helping obtain future permission to hunt.

This month's meeting will be the annual club picnic at Fairmont Park. It is a great time to come out and meet other members of the club & enjoy some good food.

See you at the picnic!

Sincerely,  
Bill Brown

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## WAGON MASTER BRUCE DUGGER

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### FIND OF THE MONTH (F.O.M.)

How would you like a small reward for your finds? The rules are simple, just read and keep the rule sheet. A Mercury dime will be awarded for first place in each category of F.O.M. competition. If you are interested in competing, bring a few of them to the August meeting at Fairmont Park, found since the last two NUTS meetings. You will need to come a few minutes early to enter your finds. Questions? Call Bruce Dugger - 966-3661.

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## FROM THE EDITOR-ENTER THE NEW CONTEST

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Send material for publication in the TOKEN HUNTER to: Karen Kay, 3871 South 6620 West, West Valley City, Utah 84120. Also, please make sure you call me (250-1663) with new addresses before the deadline so you will receive "THE TOKEN HUNTER" on time. YOUR ARTICLE, LETTER, ETC., MUST BE TO ME BY SEPTEMBER 13 TO BE IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.

### NEW "ORIGINAL ARTICLE CONTEST"

We are again sponsoring an original article contest. ALL ORIGINAL ARTICLES MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 13, 1993 TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE CONTEST. PRIZE WILL BE A PRE 1893 MORGAN SILVER DOLLAR. ALL ARTICLES ENTERED WILL BE PUBLISHED AS SPACE PERMITS. REMEMBER I MUST HAVE RECEIVED ALL ENTRIES BY SEPTEMBER 13 TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE CONTEST. SEND ALL ENTRIES TO KAREN KAY, 3871 SOUTH 6620 WEST, WEST VALLEY CITY, UTAH 84120.



AUGUST 26, 7 P.M.

FAIRMONT PARK

BRING YOUR OWN

PLATES AND

MEAT

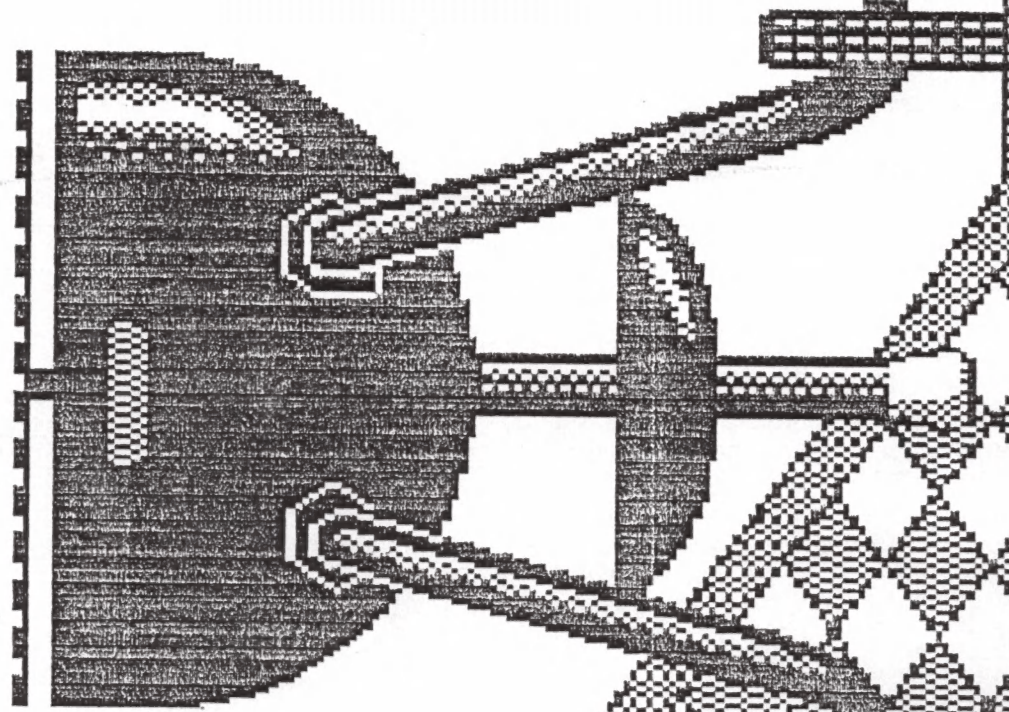
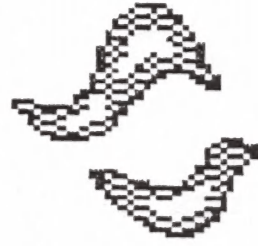
WE FURNISH

DRINKS & CHARCOAL

BRING A SIDE DISH TO

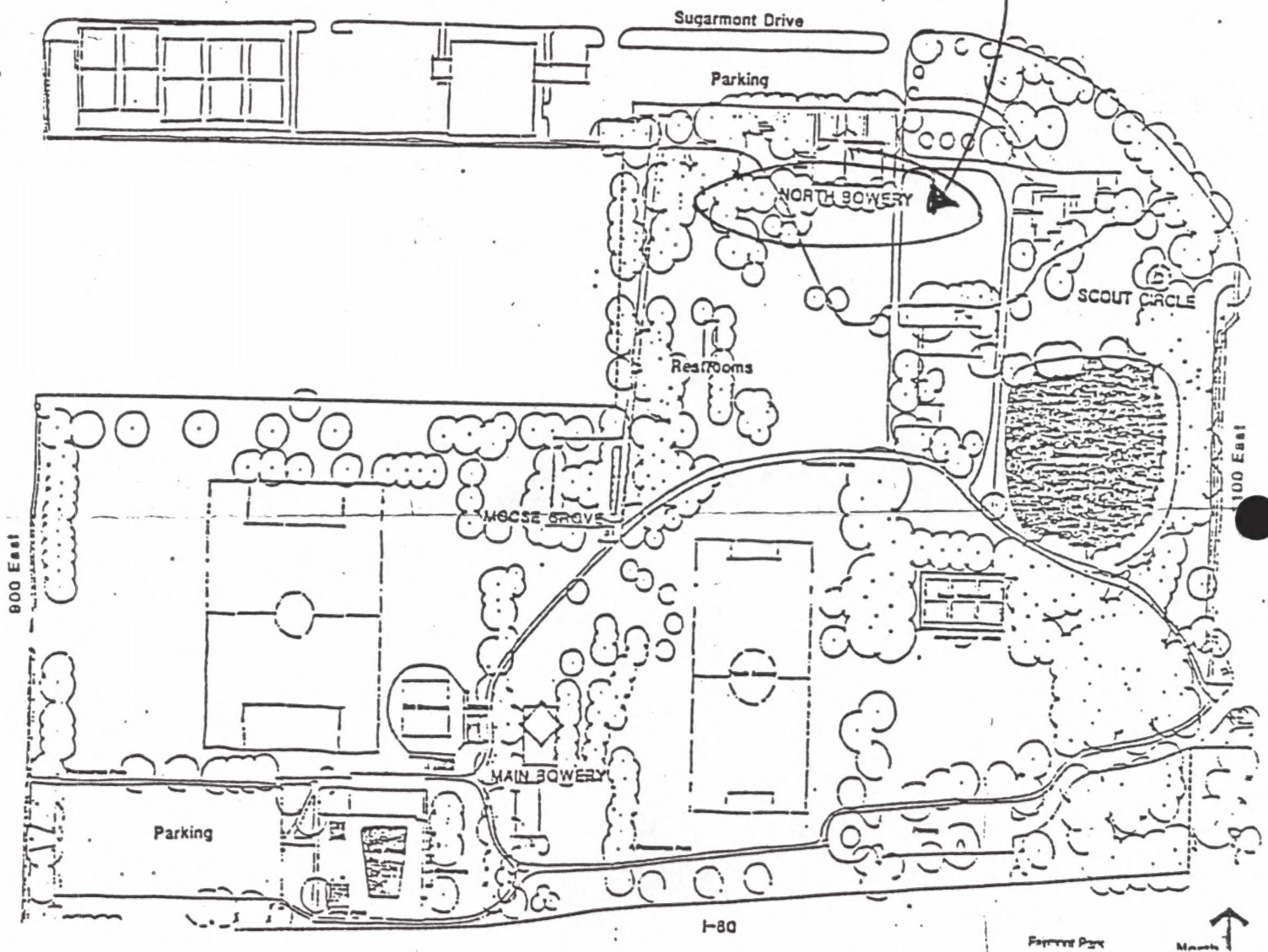
SHARE

RAFFLE AND F.O.M.





# NUTS PICNIC



***"This map is a phony... There's no marker around here??***



**TONOPAH/GOLDFIELD**—While Tonopah (10) and Goldfield aren't truly ghost towns, they are fine examples of mining boom towns that have survived into the 20th century while retaining their 19th century character and charm.

When the Comstock Lode reserves became depleted at the turn of the century, new silver discoveries at Tonopah helped revitalize Nevada's mining industry.

By 1910, Tonopah, located 207 miles northwest of Las Vegas and 228 miles southeast of Carson City on U.S. Highway 95, was the center of political and economic activity in the state.

A visit to Tonopah should include a trip to the Mizpah, a restored turn of the century hotel. Visitors should also stop at the Central Nevada Museum, one of the best small museums in the state.

**Goldfield**, located 25 miles south of Tonopah on Highway 95, was the biggest city in Nevada with 20,000 residents in the early part of this century. But like most mining boom towns, when the ore was gone, the decline came quickly. Today, a small village remains with a handful of businesses.

A visit to Goldfield is worthwhile to see the Goldfield Hotel, once the most luxurious hotel between Kansas City and San Francisco. Travelers should also stroll the historic neighborhoods and visit the mining district at the foot of Columbia Mountain.

**BELMONT**—About 47 miles northeast of Tonopah is the ghost town of Belmont (12). The often-photographed ruins include the partially-restored Belmont Court House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the remains of the wooden Cosmopolitan Saloon.

A well-preserved cemetery and impressive remains of large stamp mills are silent reminders that Belmont once had more than two thousand residents.

West of Belmont, on State Route 377, is Manhattan. While never a true ghost town because people have always resided there, Manhattan has several older buildings, including a picturesque church. The area remains an active mining camp with several large open pit mines.

**BERLIN/IONE**—Located 23 miles east of Gabbs, off State Route 361, on a clearly marked county/forest service road, the Berlin Ichthyosaur State Park (13) is a unique combination of ghost town and prehistoric dig. The park contains the weathered remnants of Berlin, a small mining town abandoned more than 75 years ago, and the fossil remains of two dozen Ichthyosaurs, large swimming reptiles that flourished 150 million years ago.

A few miles north of Berlin, is Ione, once the Nye County seat. The town boasted more than 500 residents during its peak in the mid 1860s, but now consists of a few businesses and a handful of quaint historic buildings.

**RHYOLITE**—Located seven miles west of Beatty and about 120 miles north of Las Vegas on U.S.

Route 95 and State Route 374, Rhyolite (14) was one of the most famous mining towns at its peak in 1907. Visitors can view the skeletal remains of several buildings, including the partially-restored Las Vegas & Tonopah Railroad depot and the Rhyolite Bottle House, a residence built almost entirely of glass bottles more than 75 years ago.

**PIOCHE**—Once known as the "toughest" town in Nevada, Pioche (15), according to some sources accounted for nearly 60 percent of the homicides in the state from 1871-1872.

Located 193 miles northeast of Las Vegas via U.S. 93, Pioche is home to the Million Dollar Lincoln County Court House. Contracted for \$26,400, the two-story building cost \$88,000 by the time it was completed in 1872 and almost \$1 million by the time it was finally paid off, with interest, in 1937. Visitors can also see an elaborate tram system overlooking the city that once carried ore from the mines to a local mill.

## LAS VEGAS TERRITORY

**SEARCHLIGHT**—Named after a popular brand of sulphur matches, Searchlight (16) was one of the most productive gold mining communities in southern Nevada around the turn of the century.

Located 55 miles south of Las Vegas via U.S. Highway 95, Searchlight claimed more than 5,000 residents, two weekly newspapers, 44 working mines and a dozen saloons at its peak in 1907.

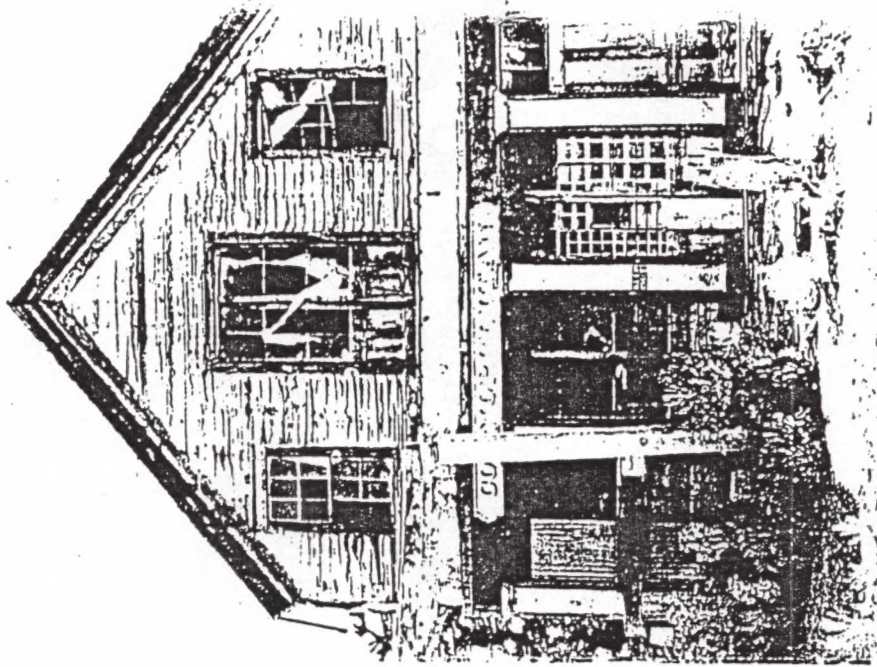
When the mines were played out, most residents moved on, especially to Las Vegas. Today, historic buildings exist amidst more modern structures. Visitors can see the remnants of mine headshfts on the surrounding hills.

**NELSON**—Located 42 miles south of Las Vegas, via Highway 95 and State Route 165, Nelson (17) is a former mining camp that produced more than \$10 million in bullion over the years. Today, the community claims several historic buildings and remains of the old mines and mills.

**GOODSPRINGS**—This former mining town (18), located 50 miles southwest of Las Vegas off Interstate 15 and State Route 161, was founded in the 1860s but didn't become a large producer of silver and lead until the 1890s. Several homes, mill foundations and abandoned mines can be seen in the area.

## For more information contact:

Nevada Commission on Tourism  
Capitol Complex  
Carson City, Nevada 89710  
(702) 885-4322



**NEVADA**  
NEVADAS GOT IT.



## NEVADA GHOST TOWNS AND HISTORICAL ATTRACTIONS

While most people know Nevada for its world famous casinos and entertainment, perhaps less well known is that the Silver State is a virtual gold mine of historic sites waiting to be rediscovered. Visitors will find Nevada's authentic Ghost Towns and historic communities to be one of the best ways to relive the raucous days of the Old West.

Many of the state's ghost towns and historic sites are located off the beaten track, but a number are accessible and offer an intriguing glimpse into Nevada's colorful past. Note that all historic locations are environmentally fragile. Often the greatest enemy of our historic sites is not weather or time but vandalism. The cover photo of this brochure, taken a few years ago, depicts the Cosmopolitan Saloon in the ghost town of Belmont. Sadly, the second floor of the structure is no longer standing because of vandalism.

Visitors are asked to respect historic sites and not remove any objects. Additionally, many historic structures are unstable and potentially dangerous. Visitors should treat them with caution.

### RENO/TAHOE TERRITORY

**VIRGINIA CITY**—One of the most accessible of the state's historic mining towns is Virginia City (1), located 25 miles southeast of Reno via U.S. 395 and State Highway 341. While not technically a ghost town—it's home to about 750 permanent residents—Virginia City is a visual feast for those interested in seeing the west's most extravagantly rich mining camp.

Virginia City was the site of the world's largest gold and silver strike and at its peak in the 1870s had a population exceeding 30,000. Visitors can stroll through rustic saloons and shops, tour mansions restored to former glory or explore mining tunnels that produced more than a billion dollars in ore.

**GOLD HILL/SILVER CITY**—Just south of Virginia City on Highway 341 are the communities of Gold Hill and Silver City (2). Erected within sight of the original Comstock Lode silver strike, both feature historic buildings and sites, including: the Gold Hill Hotel, a bed and breakfast inn that is the state's oldest lodging house; Devil's Gate, an imposing rock formation that served as a toll gate entrance to the Comstock area; and the Comstock's first silver mill.

**DAYTON**—Located 12 miles east of Carson City via Highway 50, Dayton (3) is an attractive mixture of old and new. Founded in 1849, Dayton holds the distinction of being the site of Nevada's first gold strike, first marriage and first divorce. The downtown contains several historic buildings, such as the Odeon Saloon.

Visitors will also find a fascinating collection of historic locations in Carson City, including the State Capitol, the former Carson City Mint (now the

Nevada State Museum), a historic housing district and the Nevada State Railroad Museum.

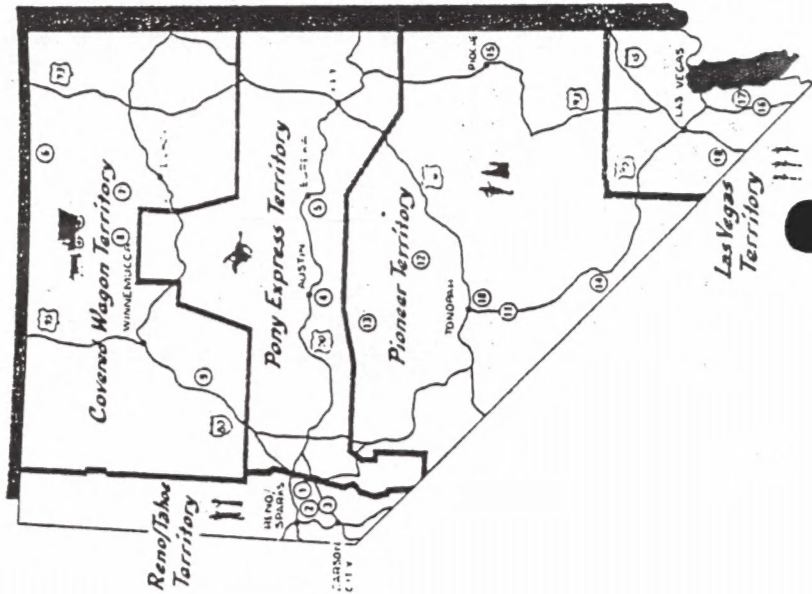
Twelve miles south of Carson City, just west of U.S. Highway 395, is Genoa, the oldest permanent settlement in Nevada and home of the Genoa Bar, the oldest saloon in the state. Visitors should also stop at the Courthouse Museum, located in the state's oldest standing courthouse.

### PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

**AUSTIN**—Formerly the Lander County seat, Austin (4), located on U.S. Highway 50, once boasted 10,000 residents and more than forty mining camps. Today, Austin is a quiet town that still boasts fabulous turquoise mines. Visitors should stop by the International Hotel, originally built in Virginia City, then dismantled and relocated to Austin in 1863.

The community also has three of the oldest brick churches in Nevada, the renovated Gridley store and Stokes Castle, a curiously-designed, three-story brick tower built in 1897.

**EUREKA**—Seat of the county that shares that name, Eureka (5), located 70 miles east of Austin on Highway 50, was one of Nevada's largest cities in the 1870s. At its peak, the community supported 9,000



people, a hundred saloons, several dozen gambling halls and 16 smelters to refine the mining load of the entire district.

Eureka is one of the state's great living ghost towns. It contains a restored courthouse, a fine museum, the Eureka Theatre, an historic downtown district and several neighborhoods with 19th century homes that are still being used. The town also boasts five large frontier cemeteries that help tell the story of the people that founded this former mining camp.

**WARD CHARCOAL OVENS**—Located about 15 miles south of Ely on Highway 50, then six miles on a maintained dirt road, are the Ward Charcoal Ovens. Visitors will find six 30-foot high beehive-shaped brick ovens built in 1876 to provide fuel for nearby smelters.

Nearby Ely also houses the Nevada Northern Railway Museum, a shortline railroad considered to be one of the best preserved in the country.

### COVERED WAGON TERRITORY

**JARBIDGE**—This sleepy community hidden in the northeastern corner of Nevada has the distinction of being the site of the last American stagecoach robbery in 1916. Jarbidge (6) is located 102 miles north of Ely, via Nevada Route 225 and a graded dirt road leading east 4 miles north of North Fork.

The isolated community is one of Nevada's most beautiful ghost towns, noted as much for its breathtaking location in a steep canyon and colorful flowers as for its ruins.

**TUSCARORA**—Located 52 miles northwest of Ely via Nevada Routes 225 and 226, Tuscarora (7) counted a year-round population of nearly 4,000 by 1877. But silver production faltered less than 10 years later and much of the community was slowly reclaimed by the elements.

Today, Tuscarora is an authentic, inhabited mining town, with a fascinating array of old buildings and about two dozen permanent residents.

**MIDAS**—Located 42 miles west of Tuscarora via Nevada Route 18, Midas (8) blossomed in 1908, when more than 2,000 prospectors pitched tents because of reports of gold. But most moved on later that year when the ore turned out to be insufficient and of low quality.

**UNIONVILLE**—Located 45 miles northeast of Lovelock, via Interstate 80 and Nevada Route 400 (turn south at Mill City), Unionville (9) flourished in the 1860s with the discovery of silver in the area. By early 1863, more than 200 residences and fifty businesses sprouted in this mining camp. Writer Mark Twain worked a mining claim here for a few weeks then decided there were easier ways to make a living.

Today, Unionville consists of small farms and orchards, with stone ruins extending almost three miles up the length of the Buena Vista Canyon. Hikers will find a pleasant trail through the lush scenic canyon.



# UTAH STATE COIN & COLLECTIBLES SHOW

SEPTEMBER 24, 25, 26

National Guard Armory #2  
1523 East Sunnyside Avenue

*Sponsored by the*

**UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY**

**FREE ADMISSION & PARKING      PUBLIC WELCOME**

Hours:

**FRIDAY-SATURDAY—10 A.M. to 7 P.M.**

**SUNDAY—10 A.M.-4 P.M.**

**FEATURING: COINS, MEDALS, TOKENS, PAPER MONEY, STAMPS,  
SPORTS CARDS AND HAND HELD COLLECTIBLES**

